IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: HAIMALA, Juha et al Conf.:

Appl. No.: NEW Group:

Filed: December 31, 2003 Examiner:

For: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR THE HANDLING AND

STORAGE OF LOADS

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

December 31, 2003

Sir:

The following preliminary amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This amendment includes:

Amendments to the Specification

Claims Set as Amended

Remarks